

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 016790-0445

#31A  
PRE AMPT  
J. Munnell  
4/15/02

In re patent application of

Juergern MANNSS

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: OPTICAL VIEWING DEVICE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be entered into the application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12 with the following amended claims:

A<sup>1</sup>  
--1. (Amended) A device for controlling the brightness of an optical signal overlaid on a specimen image, ~~for example~~ in a microscope, having a main beam path (1, 2, 6), a main objective (12), a main light source (11), and a beam splitter (23) for reflecting image data into the main beam path (6), wherein the illumination for the reflected-in image (4) can be generated on a transmitted-light basis, in particular by means of a transmitted-light display (21), selectably, directly or indirectly by way of the main light source (11) and/or a second light source (18) controllable as a function of the main light source.

A<sup>2</sup>  
3. (Amended) The device as defined in Claim 1, wherein an optical prism (17), a mirror, or the like is provided for switching between the main light source and reflected-in image light source.

verse  
2<sup>nd</sup> light source?